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United States Serial No. : [To be assigned]  
International Application No. : PCT/EP99/03286  
International Filing Date : May 12, 1999  
Inventor(s) : Viktor Uerlings and Arnold Gillner  
Title : "A METHOD FOR MARKING  
PAPER AND CARDBOARD"

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Commissioner for Patents  
United States Patent and Trademark Office  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

Before calculation of the filing fee, please amend the claims of the above-referenced patent application, which claims are based on the Article 34 claim amendments filed in the corresponding international patent application, as follows:

**In the claims:**

✓  
Please cancel claims 3-18 without prejudice to reintroducing the claims and insert the following claims 19-34.